

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 5th June 2007
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Executive Board and Executive Sub Minutes
WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Corporate Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board and Executive Sub since the last meeting of this Board are attached at Appendix 1 (link) for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to update the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Executive Board – 22nd February 2007

EXB85 BUDGET 2007/08

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director – Financial Services outlining the budget, capital programme and council tax for 2007/08 to be recommended to Council.

It was noted that, since the report had been written and circulated, the Police Authority and Fire Authority had set their precepts at an increase of 6.9% and 1.5% respectively. Members were advised that, at this level, there was a risk that the Police Authority would be capped. If this happened, there would be implications for the Council, as the billing authority, in terms of any re-billing required.

The Corporate Services Portfolio Holder thanked those officers and Councillors involved in producing what was considered to be an excellent budget, particularly in light of the tough Local Government Finance Settlement received.

In addition, the Board gave consideration to the motion, referred to it by Council the previous evening under Standing Order No. 6(4), outlining proposed amendments to the budget by the Liberal Democrat Group.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Council adopt the resolution set out in Appendix A, which includes setting the budget at £95.041m and the Band D Council Tax for Halton (before Parish, Police and Fire precepts) of £1,043.45; and
- (2) the mover and seconder of the Motion submitted by the Liberal Democrat Group to Full Council on 21st March 2007, and referred to the Executive Board under Standing Order No. 6(4), be afforded the opportunity by Full Council to resubmit the Motion as an amendment to the substantive Budget Motion.

JOINT CORPORATE SERVICES AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIOS

EXB86 FLEXIBLE WORKING

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive outlining the work of the North West Flexible Working Group.

It was noted that the need for the Group had been identified out of the “Home-working in England’s Northwest” project supported by the North West Development Agency. The Group

was chaired by Peter Connor from BT and the Chief Executive had been asked to represent Local Authority interests on the Group. The mission and targeted outcomes of the Group were outlined for the Board's consideration.

It was noted that Halton had a number of flexible working pilots operating at present, which were regularly monitored and evaluated. In addition, a "Home/Work Balance" Officer Group was also exploring how best to maximise flexible working to enhance service quality and efficiency whilst at the same time improving terms and conditions for employees. It was requested that any proposed pilot be reported to the Board prior to implementation.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the proposed actions outlined in the report be approved; and
- (3) Halton develop a programme of flexible working as an exemplar for local government best practice.

Chief Executive

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB87 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT DELIVERY PLAN

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive proposing updates for each of the Action Plans, produced to deliver Halton's Local Area Agreement, and requesting approval of the funding allocations contained within them.

It was noted that, since 2002, the Halton Strategic Partnership Board had ensured that there was a Specialist Strategic Partnership (SSP) for each of the five priorities. These SSPs were commissioned to produce the original Strategies and Action Plans, and had now produced updated Action Plans setting out their activities and investment proposals for 2007/08. They set out a programme of activity to deliver the thematic elements of the Community Strategy and, in particular, addressed the key measureable outcomes set out within it.

The Board was advised that the Action Plans utilised Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and, in the case of the Safer Halton Partnership, Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) as well. In addition, the Council had committed a substantial amount of resources through the Priorities Fund (PF). The Council monies were aimed at supporting neighbourhood renewal activity

by match funding initiatives within the Action Plans.

Details were outlined for the Board's consideration and it was noted that the Action Plans had been endorsed by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the five Action Plans accompanying the report be approved;
- (2) the allocation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and Safer and Stronger Communities Fund, referred to in this report and contained in the Action Plans endorsed by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board, be approved;
- (3) the allocation of the Council's Priority Funds referred to in this report, including that contained in the Action Plans, be approved; and
- (4) delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to approve amendments to the Actions Plans as necessary.

Chief Executive

QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO

EXB89 DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE PLANS 2007-10 (KEY DECISION)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy regarding the Council's Departmental Service Plans for 2007-2010.

It was noted that Departmental Service Plans sat within an established planning framework and were central to the Council's performance management arrangements. They provided a clear statement on what individual services were planning to achieve and showed how this contributed to the corporate priorities of the Council. They were an essential tool for making key decisions about future service provision and the level of resources required.

The Board was advised that there had been no significant amendments to the layout of plans from the previous year. However, following the development of the Corporate Plan 2006-2011 and the introduction of Key Areas of Focus for each of the Council's Priority areas, the service objectives section of service plans had been revised in order to show more clearly how departmental activities were related to Corporate Priorities.

Members noted that the definitive set of 2007-08 Best Value Performance Indicators had yet to be confirmed by the Department of Communities and Local Government; once this information had been published, any changes that were necessary as a result would be incorporated. In addition, a Budgetary Statement would be inserted into plans following the approval of the budget by full Council in March.

A number of questions were raised by the Environment, Leisure and Sport Portfolio Holder: the Board was requested to direct any further queries in respect of the Plans direct to the Chief Executive.

Reason for Decision

Departmental Service Plans were central to the Council's performance management arrangements. As such, it was necessary for them to be approved before the start of the new financial year.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

Implementation Date

1st April 2007.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) this set of advanced draft Service Plans be received; and
- (2) full Council be requested to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any final amendments and adjustments that may be required, and to approve the final service plans.

Chief Executive

Executive Board 29th March 2007

CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

EXB97 ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy regarding the Annual Audit and Inspection letter prepared by the Council's Audit Commission Relationship Manager and the District Auditor, Julian Farmer.

The letter provided an overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council, drawing on the findings and conclusions from the Audit of the Council and inspections that had been undertaken in the last year. It also drew from wider

analysis of the Council's performance and its improvement over the last year as measured through the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Framework.

Mr. Farmer attended the meeting and addressed the Board on the overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council, outlining actions considered necessary to be taken by the Council if it was to maintain its 'Four Star' rating. In particular, Mr. Farmer commented on the public's satisfaction in the performance of the Council, which had been shown to be increasing.

Members commented on the excellent report stating that this was a credit to everyone at the Council, but in particular the Operational Director – Financial Services and his team.

In addition, comments were made about the following issues:

- difficulties in partnership and multi-agency working where it was not always possible to influence partners' actions to the same extent as could be done internally;
- the Council had now reached Level 2 in the Equality Standards; and
- the Council had recently taken measures in respect of unauthorised absences and permanent exclusions which had already borne fruit.

The Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy confirmed that the actions required in the letter would be cross-checked against the Authority's Improvement Plans to ensure these points were being addressed.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Letter be received.

EXB98 GAMBLING ACT 2005 - DELEGATION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy outlining a recommendation that authority should be delegated to the Regulatory Committee to set fees under Section 212 of the Gambling Act 2005.

It was advised that, on 22nd January 2007, the Regulatory Committee had received a report on the Gambling Act 2005 which dealt with matters relating to powers and duties. The report had detailed the matters which the legislation reserved exclusively, either for full Council or for the Regulatory Committee. Section 212 of the Gambling Act 2005 enabled Councils to set fee levels

in limited circumstances. This function had to be exercised by full Council unless the Council delegated the powers to the Regulatory Committee in accordance with Section 154 of the Gambling Act 2005.

The Regulatory Committee had therefore resolved that the Executive Board be requested to recommend this amendment to full Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to delegate authority to the Regulatory Committee its power to set fees under Section 212 Gambling Act 2005 in accordance with Section 154 Gambling Act 2005.

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EXB99 CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE POST OFFICE NETWORK

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy regarding a consultation document that had been issued by the Department of Trade and Industry on the future of the Post Office Network, and outlining the response of the Chief Executive to that consultation document.

It was noted that the Chief Executive had highlighted two particular concerns from Halton’s perspective:

- (1) the proposal to change the walking distance criteria for post offices in deprived urban areas from half a mile to one mile; and
- (2) the proposal to provide support for outreach services in “small remote communities”.

The Chief Executive’s letter outlined the importance of the Post Office to community life in areas like Halton and the potential impact of any reductions in service that may take place.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the action of the Chief Executive be endorsed; and
- (2) further reports be brought to the Executive Board as and when more detailed proposals are produced by the Department for Trade and Industry.

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EUROPEAN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

EXB107 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy requesting that the Board review the

Corporate Risk Register in line with the Council's Strategic Risk Management Framework.

It was advised that there was no proposal to add any new risks to the register at the present time.

RESOLVED: That the revised Corporate Risk Register, attached as Appendix A to the report, be approved.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB108 PARTNERSHIPS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy outlining the recommendations of the Corporate Services Policy and Performance Board (PPB) meeting of 9th January 2007 in relation to partnerships.

The Corporate Services PPB had noted that it was necessary to ensure that:

- partnership work was properly directed and overseen by the Council;
- resources invested in partnership working were properly managed;
- arrangements were in place to ensure propriety and probity in partnership working; and
- partnership working delivered value for money in terms of outcomes.

It was advised that a register had been established, which was still in its formative stages but would develop to be a more comprehensive record of partnership working over time.

Following consideration of this report, the Corporate Services PPB had made a number of recommendations to the Executive Board, which the Board now duly considered.

In moving the recommendations, the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Management and Development thanked the Corporate Services PPB for its work in this area.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the definition of Partnership be agreed as follows:

Partnership - a joint working arrangement where the partners:

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Policy

- are otherwise independent bodies;
 - agree to co-operate to achieve a common goal; and
 - and to achieve it, create an organisational structure or process, an agreed programme, and share information, risks and rewards”;
- (2) a register of all partnerships of which the Council is a member be created and kept by the Council Solicitor including the information as outlined in the report;
 - (3) all new partnerships created or joined by the Council be notified to the Council Solicitor by the officer with responsibility for the partnership;
 - (4) the governance of partnership checklist be formally endorsed;
 - (5) the issues set out in the checklist be properly considered and addressed before a decision is taken to form or enter into a new partnership;
 - (6) annual progress reports be presented by each partnership in the register to the appropriate PPB;
 - (7) the Corporate Services PPB review the Partnership Register and Partnership arrangements on an annual basis to make sure that they are working effectively; and
 - (8) as the process with regards to partnerships is developed, additional reports be brought to the Corporate Services PPB.

Executive Board Sub Committee - 8th February 2007
CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

ES72 COMMISSIONING OF PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES

The Sub Committee considered a request to waive Standing Orders relating to Contracts to allow for the Commissioning of Professional Consultant Services through the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) Buying Solutions Framework Agreements for Property and Construction Services. The OGC was an independent office of the Treasury, it was launched in April 2000 following the Gershon Review, as a One Stop Shop central procurement organisation.

OGC Buying Solutions was dedicated to providing procurement services mainly to assist the public sector in achieving greater efficiency and value for money. All OGC Buying Solutions framework agreements were fully compliant

with EU and public sector procurement regulations and incorporated best practice principles, thus they provided a simplified pre-tendered call-off facility at highly competitive rates.

It was intended to “call-off” professional consultant services from these framework agreements, initially to work on capital projects, but with the intention of widening this out in the future to work on any project where necessary.

The Sub Committee noted that the existing framework agreement for consultant services had been extended to its final end date of 31st March 2008. This decision was made by the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy, in conjunction with the Executive Board Member for Corporate Services, in accordance with Minute No. ES27 (Executive Board Sub-Committee 4th March 2003).

It was agreed however, that the commissioning of consultants to work on capital projects should be excluded from the future workload of this agreement. As the level of spend on capital works in the future was uncertain, it was not appropriate at this stage to enter into another long-term agreement for the provision of consultant services. The setting up of any framework agreement would also take a considerable amount of time and cost, as EU regulations would need to be complied with.

The use of the OGC framework agreements as recommended would negate the need for a bespoke agreement and not the authority considerable expense. The arrangement would also allow the Council to use a variety of consultants across a range of projects.

RESOLVED: That a waiver of Standing Orders 2.1 – 2.6, 2.8 – 2.14, 3.1 – 3.7 and 4.1 be granted in order to allow for the procurement of professional consultant services through the OGC buying solutions framework agreement for construction and property professional services.

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ES73 DISCRETIONARY NON-DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

Under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the authority was allowed to grant discretionary rate relief to organisations who were either a charity or a non profit-making organisation.

The Sub-Committee considered a report which set out details of two applications for discretionary non-domestic rate relief from:

- (i) Addaction, Ashley House, Victoria Road,
Widnes WA8 7RP
- (ii) Halton Disability Services, 87 Albert Road
Widnes.

RESOLVED: That

(1) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, discretionary rate relief be granted to the following organisation at the percentage indicated, for the period 1st April 2006 or the commencement of liability, whichever is the later, to 31st March 2009:

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Halton Disability Services 20%

(2) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, the following application for discretionary rate relief be refused:

Addaction 20%

CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

ES74 APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL ADVISORS FOR MERSEY GATEWAY

The Sub-Committee considered a report which outlined a review of the options for securing the continuity of the highest quality of legal advice for the Mersey Gateway Project as the project moves forward through the planning and procurement process.

RESOLVED: That the Council appoint DLA Piper on the terms submitted in their recent proposal.

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Executive Board Sub Committee – 22nd February 2007

CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

N.B Councillor Wharton Declared A Personal And Prejudicial Interest In The Item Below As His Son Plays For Hale Fc.

COUNCILLOR HARRIS IN THE CHAIR

ES83 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

Under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the authority is allowed to grant

discretionary rate relief to organisations who are either a charity or a non-profit making organisation.

The Sub-Committee considered a report which set out details of an application for discretionary non-domestic rate relief for Hale Juniors Football Club, Hale Park, Hale.

RESOLVED: That

(1) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, discretionary rate relief be granted to the following organisation at the percentage indicated, for the period 1st April 2006 or the commencement of liability, whichever is the later, between 31st March 2009:

Hale Juniors Football Club	100%
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COUNCILLOR WHARTON IN THE CHAIR

ES84 3RD QUARTER TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Sub-Committee considered a report which reviewed activities and treasury management for 3rd Quarter of 2006/07.

It was noted that all policy guidelines including the prudential indicators had been complied with.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

ES85 2006/07 QUARTER 3 SPENDING

The Sub-Committee considered a report which summarised the overall revenue and capital spending position as at 31st December 2006.

In overall terms, revenue expenditure at the end of the 3rd Quarter was around £1.97m below the budget profile. However, as the profile was only a guide to spending patterns, it did indicate in overall terms, that spending would be within budget. Within the overall position, there were some significant variances and details of these were outlined in the report.

With regard to capital, it was reported that spending to the 31st December 2006 totalled £13.5m which represented only 42% of the total programme of £32.4m. In particular, within major projects, the Widnes Waterfront, 3MG, and Castlefields Projects were significantly below their capital programme allocations, however, these were complex multi-funded projects, which made them particularly challenging to deliver. Although spending was

likely to be significantly higher in the remainder of the financial year, it was important that project managers maintained pressure to keep projects and spending on schedule and in particular to ensure that all external funding was maximised.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

ES86 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it was:

RESOLVED: That under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all of the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

ES88 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR 2007/08

The Sub-Committee was requested to recommend to the Council the appointment of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That the Sub-Committee recommend to Council:

(1) that Councillor M. Hodgkinson be appointed as the Mayor for the 2007/08 Municipal Year; and

(2) that Councillor A. Cole be appointed as the Deputy Mayor for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

Executive Board Sub Committee - 15th March 2007

CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

ES98 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2007/8

The Sub-Committee considered the Council's Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2007/08.

The Strategy covers the Treasury limits in force which

Council Solicitor

would limit the Treasury risk and activities of the Council, prudential indicators, the current treasury position, the borrowing requirement, prospects for interest rates, the borrowing strategy, debt rescheduling, the investment strategy, and any extraordinary treasury issues.

RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to approve the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy.

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ES99 LOCAL LAND CHARGES – FEES 2007/2008

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought approval for a new scale of fees for Local Land Charge Searches effective from 1st April 2006.

The LLC1 fee was set by central government but with effect from 1st April 2007 that power was devolved to Councils. The detailed guidance from Central Government outlining the basis for setting charges was still awaited. However, it was known that the charges for the LLC1 had to be set so as to cover costs rather than to generate income.

It was reported that the Council needed to respond to the new freedom to set the LLC1 fee and it was proposed to reduce the CON29 fee to £118.00 and increase the LLC1 fee to £26.00. Approval for a new maximum charge was also sought.

RESOLVED: That effective from 1st April 2007:

(1) taking account of the new discretion in relation to LLC1 charge the fees for Local Land Charges searches be set as follows:

LLC1:	£26.00 (currently £6.00);
CON29:	£118.00 (currently £134.00);
Part II Optional Inquiries:	£12.00 (no change);
Additional Inquiries:	£26.00 (no change) and equivalent increases

Council Solicitor

(2) new maximum charge of £2,500 (£1500 since 2001);

(3) the Council Solicitor, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, be authorised to review and amend the above charges in light of detailed Government guidance when issued; and

(4) the Council Solicitor, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, be authorised to review and amend the Common Land Search Fee in light of detailed Government guidance when

issued.

ES100 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

Under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the authority was allowed to grant Discretionary Non Domestic Rate Relief to organisations who are either a charity or a non-profit making organisation.

The Sub-Committee considered a report which set out details of an application for Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief for University of Liverpool, Building 2, Daresbury Innovation Centre, Daresbury. An additional letter on behalf of the Daresbury Innovation Centre was circulated to Members for consideration.

RESOLVED: That under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, the following applications for discretionary rate relief be refused:

University of Liverpool 20%.

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ES101 ST BEDES INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS

The Sub-Committee considered a report which proposed to regularise the situation in relation to the St. Bede' Infant and Junior School Playing Fields presently used by both schools to ensure they become school playing fields.

By formalising the arrangement, the schools would be able to attract funding to utilise the land more for the benefit of all pupils on both sites.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the playing fields be designated as school playing fields and are used by both schools;
- (2) the Archdiocese of Liverpool will become responsible for all maintenance, fencing and any planning consents required for the school use; and
- (3) the land will remain in the Council's ownership.

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ES103 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Committee was advised that a matter had arisen which required immediate attention by the Committee because in this case a decision was required before the date of the next meeting (Minute 104 refers), therefore pursuant to Section 100 B (4) and 100 E Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman ruled that the item be considered as a matter of urgency.

CORPORATE PORTFOLIO

ES104 BRINDLEY MOUND

The Sub-Committee was advised on 6 tenders received for the removal of the Brindley Mound and for the construction of the retaining wall.

The work was expected to commence mid-April 2007 and would be a 10-week contract.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to appoint D. Morgan as the preferred contractor for the removal of the Brindley Mound and for the construction of the retaining wall.

Executive Board Sub Committee – 29th March 2007

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CORPORATE SERVICE PORTFOLIO

ES109 DISPOSAL OF ETHEL HANLEY CARE HOME, CORONATION DRIVE, WIDNES

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought approval to dispose of the Ethel Hanley Care Home.

The Council currently owned the freehold interest of the premises, which were recently occupied by CLC Care Services Group by way of an internal repairing and insuring fees at a rental of £35,500 per annum. The Lease contained a flexible break option in favour of the tenant to enable the lease to be terminated, which they exercised on 13th November 2006.

There was a risk that the reserve price would not be achieved at the auction, in which case the property would remain unsold. However, potential purchasers of such property were more likely to be regular auction goers and this method of sale was likely to maximise the capital receipt for the Council.

RESOLVED: That

(1) approval be given to the Operational Director Property Services, in consultation with relevant portfolio holder, to determine the basis for disposal and to dispose of the property by auction; and

Strategic Director
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(2) approval be granted to the Operational Director Property Services, in consultation with relevant portfolio holder, to accept the highest offer with details being reported to the Sub-Committee at the earliest opportunity

ES110 DISPOSAL OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE - 9/11 LUGSDALE ROAD, WIDNES

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought approval to dispose of the Community Centre, 9/11 Lugsdale Road, Widnes.

The Council currently owned the freehold interest of the premises, which was currently occupied by Social Services as an Operational Building. Operations from Lugsdale Road transferred to Midwood House, on 23rd March 2007, which would save the Council £25,000 per annum in running costs.

It was noted that when disposing of a site by auction, there was a risk that it may not reach the reserve price in which case the property would not be sold. However, the auction market was quite popular at this moment in time and it was therefore considered that this risk was minimal.

RESOLVED: That

(1) approval be given to the Operational Director Property Services, in consultation with relevant portfolio holder, to determine the basis for disposal and to dispose of the property at auction; and

(2) approval be granted to the Operational Director Property Services, in consultation with relevant portfolio holder, to accept the highest offer with the details being reported to the Sub-Committee at the earliest opportunity.

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